

REMARKS

In light of the Decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences dated September 13, 2006, affirming the rejection of independent claim 54 and dependent claim 60, but reversing all rejection against claims 24, 26, 29, 40 - 43, 50, 52 - 53, 55 - 59 and 61 - 63, by the present amendment, independent claim 54 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claim 56 has been written in independent form incorporating features of parent claim 54 therein such that claim 56, as amended, should now be in condition for allowance. Additionally, in light of the Board's comments in footnote 1 at page 4 of the Decision concerning the error in claims 59 and 60, claims 59 and 60 have been amended in accordance with the Board's interpretation to properly define the claimed invention, and additionally, claim 60 has been amended to depend from new independent claim 56, and applicants submit that therefore, claim 60, as amended, should now be in condition for allowance together with its parent claim 56. It is noted that such amendments do not raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that all claims remaining in this application should now be in condition for allowance and issue of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing

of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli,
Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.25507CX5),
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Melvin Kraus', is written over a horizontal line.

Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466

MK/jla
(703) 312-6600